

meeting of the American Medical Association in Los Angeles in June; a good many of our members who always attend the meetings did not wish to make two trips to the South so near together and wished to go in June. In spite of this, however, about two hundred registered, and a goodly number of these were from north of Tehachapi. It was frequently commented upon that the general tone of the meeting was cordial, friendly and pleasant. There were no fights and no unpleasantnesses to mar the harmony of the meeting and the House of Delegates did its work smoothly and well. The meeting was in every way a distinct success and those who attended will long remember it and the pleasant time everybody had.

Legislatures are fearful and wonderful things; they keep one excited for months, they leave one dazed when they adjourn, and then, after one has had time to come back to normal and contemplate the result, he often finds some startling things have happened. In the last days of a legislature it is difficult to keep track of what passes and what does not; and then comes the added difficulty of finding out what the Governor has approved and what he has allowed to die a natural death. Two bills directly amending the medical law were passed by the last legislature and, at the eleventh hour, were signed by the Governor, for some reason or reasons that cannot be discovered. One bill, introduced by Hurd of Los Angeles, Senate Bill No. 875, in its original form contained a number of provisions the real import of which was to license almost any one who applied for a certificate to practice. This was beaten, but on reconsideration, Hurd amended everything out of the bill except one clause allowing the Governor to appoint the Board of Examiners without nominations from the various societies and associations which, under the former law, elected twice as many nominees as there were appointments to be made, and from these nominees the Governor had to make his appointments. At the time of writing, the Governor has not signified his selection of examiners. The other bill that passed was prepared by the attorney for the Board of Examiners and was intended to compel a licensed physician to practice under his own name and to make companies, and similar institutions, display in a conspicuous place the names of the licensed physicians employed by them to practice. It passed the Senate after being introduced by Senator Avey and was known as Senate Bill No. 261. In the Assembly a number of amendments were added to it, some of them vicious and some

of them absurd, but all of them bad. The Senate did not concur in all of the amendments, but it did concur in enough of them to give the lawyers some work to do in the future.

In the Hurd Bill, No. 875, the only change from things as they were is that the Governor appoints without suggestions, as already stated. In the Avey bill, No. 261, the changes are more extensive and more radical. The first one provides that the board "May issue a certificate to any person who has practiced a special branch of medicine and surgery, at the time this act goes into effect, for a period of not less than thirty-five years, fifteen years of which time shall have been within the state of California." This was introduced in order to allow a quack cancer specialist named Bohanon, of Oakland, to continue to follow his nefarious calling. It is ridiculously absurd on the face of it and in all human probability will be thrown out of court as soon as it gets there. The sum and substance of the amendment is to say that any one who has successfully violated the law of the state shall be rewarded for so doing and allowed to continue! The next change is one which allows any applicant who fails, but who has received not less than 75% in each of seven or more subjects, to be re-examined in those subjects only in which he failed. Another amendment allows "any surgeon honorably discharged from the United States army or navy, regular or volunteer," to obtain a license to practice upon filing a sworn copy of his discharge with the board and paying \$50. And finally, the amendment which was the original bill, creating a new section to the medical law to be known as Section 13a, raising the penalty to a maximum of one year in jail or a fine of \$1000, for any violation of the section. It is long, but the gist of it has already been referred to. It requires a licensed physician to practice under his real name, and requires companies, etc., to display the names of the licensed physicians who are doing medical work in their employ. It is intended to do away with the "Dr. Smith & Co.," famous German specialists, and the like. Of course, it will have to be fought out in the courts, but the chances are it will be sustained. It is practically identical with a similar section of the dental law. In addition to what has been said, it may be remarked in passing that the change in penalty allows the cases to be tried in superior courts and not in police courts, thus giving a better chance for a just verdict and sentence.

Flight from the importunate demands of medical practice for a peaceful season of renewed acquaintance with long neglected scientific methods and introduction to the more recent attainments of the medical profession, is the secret of professional youth and is

NATURE OF THE CHANGES.

SUMMER STUDY IN MEDICINE.